DIGEST

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Chaisson SB No. 280

<u>Present law</u> (ethics code) prohibits an immediate family member of an agency head from being employed in his agency but provides an exception to allow the continued employment of an immediate family member of an agency head provided that such public employee has been employed in the agency for a period of at least one year prior to the public employee's immediate family member becoming the agency head.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> and provides an additional exception to allow a district attorney to employ an immediate family member as an assistant district attorney provided that the immediate family member was continuously employed by the office of the district attorney for that judicial district for a period of at least nine months immediately prior to the district attorney taking the oath of office for his initial term as district attorney. Further provides that nothing in <u>present law</u> shall be construed to hinder, alter, or in any way affect normal promotional advancements for such assistant district attorney and specifies that notwithstanding <u>present law</u> the district attorney may participate in transactions regarding such employment.

Provides that <u>proposed law</u> is remedial, curative, and procedural and therefore retroactive.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 42:1119(G))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by <u>House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs</u> to the <u>engrossed</u> bill.

1. Limits the exception to the employment of an assistant district attorney by a district attorney provided that the assistant was employed as such in that office for at least nine months immediately preceding the district attorney taking the oath of office for his initial term as district attorney.